

## A B S T R A C T

Provided is a method of treating or ameliorating certain fibrotic diseases or other indications in an animal, including a human, comprising administering an effective  
5 amount of a compound of the formula I:



wherein:

a. Ar is a five or six membered heteroaryl ring having a first ring nitrogen and  
10 optionally second or third ring nitrogens, with the remaining ring atoms being carbon, oxygen, or sulfur, provided the first nitrogen of Ar is a quaternary nitrogen and Ar is not thiazolium, oxazolium or imidazolium;

b. Y is substituted on the first ring nitrogen, with the proviso that if Ar is pyrazole, indazole, (1,2,3)-triazole, benzotriazole, or (1,2,4)-triazole, the second ring  
15 nitrogen is substituted

c. Y is:

1. a group of the formula  $-CH(R^5)-R^6$  [as preferred in one embodiment]

(a) wherein  $R^5$  is hydrogen, alkyl-, cycloalkyl-, alkenyl-, alkynyl-, aminoalkyl-, hydroxy[C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub>]alkyl, dialkylaminoalkyl-, (N-[C<sub>6</sub> or C<sub>10</sub>]aryl)(N-alkyl)aminoalkyl-, piperidin-1-ylalkyl-, pyrrolidin-1-ylalkyl, azetidinylalkyl, 4-alkylpiperazin-1-ylalkyl, 4-alkylpiperidin-1-ylalkyl, 4-[C<sub>6</sub> or C<sub>10</sub>]arylpirerazin-1-ylalkyl, 4-[C<sub>6</sub> or C<sub>10</sub>]arylpireridin-1-ylalkyl, azetidin-1-ylalkyl, morpholin-4-ylalkyl, thiomorpholin-4-ylalkyl, piperazin-1-ylalkyl, piperidin-1-ylalkyl, [C<sub>6</sub> or C<sub>10</sub>]aryl, or independently the same as  $R^6$ ;

(b) wherein  $R^6$  is

(1) hydrogen, alkyl (which may be substituted by alkoxy carbonyl)-, alkenyl, alkynyl, cyano-, cyanoalkyl-, or Rs, wherein Rs is a [C<sub>6</sub> or C<sub>10</sub>]aryl or a heterocycle containing 4-10 ring atoms of which 1-3 are heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, nitrogen and sulfur; or

(2) a group of the formula  $-W-R^7$  [as preferred in one embodiment], wherein  $R^7$  is alkyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, or Rs [as preferred in one embodiment], wherein W is -C(=O)- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

(3) a group of the formula  $-W-OR^8$  wherein  $R^8$  is hydrogen or alkyl,

(4) a group of the formula  $-CH(OH)Rs$ ; or

(5) a group of the formula  $-W-N(R^9)R^{10}$ , wherein

(a)  $R^9$  is hydrogen and  $R^{10}$  is an alkyl or cycloalkyl, optionally substituted; or

(b)  $R^9$  is hydrogen or alkyl and  $R^{10}$  is Ar<sup>\*</sup>; or

(c)  $R^9$  is hydrogen or alkyl,  $R^{10}$  is a heterocycle containing 4-10 ring atoms of which 1-3 are heteroatoms are selected from the group consisting of oxygen, nitrogen and sulfur; or

(d)  $R^9$  and  $R^{10}$  are both alkyl groups; or

(e)  $R^9$  and  $R^{10}$  together with N form a heterocycle containing 4-10 ring atoms which can incorporate up to one additional

heteroatom selected from the group of N, O or S in the ring,  
wherein the heterocycle is optionally substituted; or

(f) R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> are both hydrogen; or

2. -NH<sub>2</sub>, and

- 5 e. X is a pharmaceutically acceptable anion, which may be absent if the compound provides a neutralizing salt, or  
(B) a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound.